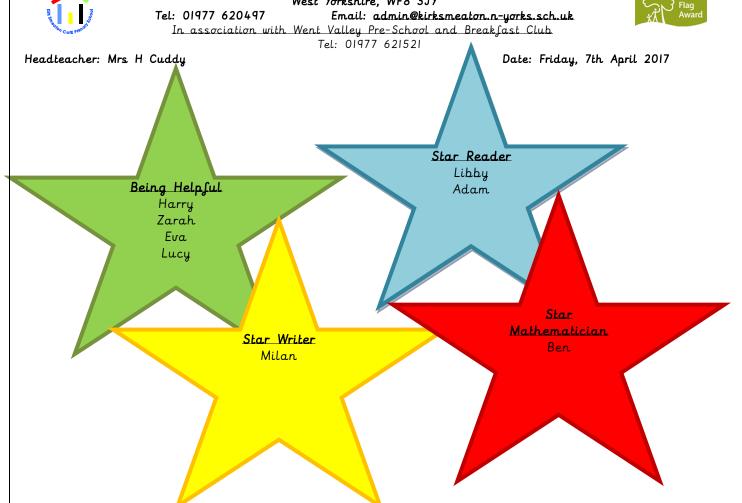
Kirk Smeaton Church of England Primary School Main Street, Kirk Smeaton, Pontefract West Yorkshire, WF8 3JY Tel: 01977 620497





Staff Changes - We are very sad to announce Ms Wolff will be leaving Kirk Smeaton at the end of July. We have been so blessed to have Ms Wolff as part of the team for the past 7 years and we wish her every luck in her future. We will miss your friendly and Be Informed approachable manner and best of all the laughter and smiles. Thank you for all the support you have shown to each and every child at Kirk Smeaton.

Message from Ms Wolff: Parents and children, I have taken the decision to leave the school at the end of this academic year. I have enjoyed seven years at the school and have had the great privilege of teaching children at an amazing time in their life. I am a big fan of our very lovely and individual school, it provides a unique place for young children to learn and has a bright future.

Children learning in the outdoors is a personal passion of mine and for the last six months I have been training to become a Forest School Leader, with a view to setting up a Forest School in the local woods of Kirk Smeaton for children in the local area to learn new skills and enjoy being outside. I would like to maintain links with the school and plan to continue to offer children at Kirk Smeaton, as well as other local schools, this opportunity so hopefully it's not goodbye. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and parents that have supported Starfish Class in one form or another for the last seven years, it is much appreciated and has certainly enriched the children's experiences.

Message from Rebecca Rawson on behalf of the school governors: We are very sad to see Ms Wolff leaving Starfish class and our school but delighted that there will still be opportunities for our children to benefit from her enthusiastic and creative teaching through Forest School. Thank you Ms Wolff for your dedication, support, hard work, enthusiasm and motivational attitude. Not everyone will be aware that you have also been a school governor for the last few years - giving up even more of your time to the cause of ensuring all our pupils have the opportunity to get the most out of their time at our school. Thank you also for your work as a governor, you will be missed. We wish you every success with your new venture.

Starfish - Ms Wolff will be baking with our Starfish children every Monday and we ask that children that attend on this day kindly make a donation towards ingredients. There is an envelope on the parents info board in Starfish, or you can hand to the school office. Thank you in advance.

<u>Change to School Bus</u> – after the Easter holidays, the school bus run will be done by Stringers Coaches. Their route and timetable is below. Should you have any concerns please contact us.

| Cridling Stubbs | 08:35 | Kirk Smeaton | 15:35 |
|------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|
| Northfield Lane, Womersley | 08:43 | Womersley Roundabout | 15:40 |
| Low Farm Crescent, Womersley | 08:43 | Low Farm Crescent, Womersley | 15:43 |
| Womersley Roundabout | 08:45 | Northfield Lane, Womersley | 15:43 |
| Kirk Smeaton | 08:50 | Cridling Stubbs | 15:51 |

Starfish Explorers Invoices - Invoices will be sent out at the start of the next half term due to the high demand of extended entitlement applications received by the Authority. They have received over 4000 online applications and haven't started assessing the paper forms yet for applicants out of the area. For this reason, I am unable to invoice correctly until I know who qualifies and who doesn't. Thank you to those parents who have already received a response and provided their entitlement letter.

In addition to the new extended entitlement offer, we need to obtain a new parental agreement form from everyone as the previous one only covers the universal 15 hours funding. I will be sending these home today. Please complete and return the form on our return to school along with your entitlement letter if received by then.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Marner.

<u>Year 5's</u> - on Friday 16th June, our Year 5's will be attending Campsmount for the morning for a taster session. We'll be sending home letters shortly with further details, but please be aware parents will need to take them to Campsmount and we will arrange the return to school.

Height and Weight Checks – our Healthy Child Team will be in school on Tuesday 25th April to carry out these on Reception and Year 6 children. Letters have already been sent home with full details, but please let us know if you have not received this.



New Admissions - If your child will be starting Nursery explorers or Reception next year please come along to the parent meeting on 5^{th} May at 2pm. There will be a stay and play session for any child starting Reception and Nursery in September 2017 on the 15^{th} May at 2-3pm.

<u>School Dinners - Next Half Term</u>- The amount outstanding for next half terms School Meals is $\pounds 49.45$ (23 meals x £2.15).

If your child is on a meal plan the amounts are as follows:

I meal per week - £10.75

2 meals per week - £21.50

3 meals per week - £32.25

4 meals per week - £43.00

Please take into account that we are closed on Monday, 24th April 2017 and Monday, 1st May 2017.

Please make payment onto parentpay no later than Friday, 21st April 2017 and ensure you include any debits showing on your parentpay account.

As a reminder, school meals must be paid for in advance of the start of each half term. Please ensure payment is made no later than Monday, 24th April 2017 ensuring you account for any debits/credits on your parentpay account.

Donations - if anyone has any old (but still in good repair) scooters and helmets please consider donating them to school.



School Lottery – our school lottery is now online, and we really need your support! You can sign up at https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kirk-smeaton-ce-primary-school/supporter. This term, all ticket holders will also be entered into a nationwide draw to win an annual pass to your choice of National Trust, National Trust Scotland, or CADW. We are quite a way from our goal number of people signing up so please sign up as soon as you can.

Fundraising Stamps. - we have teamed up with Fundraising Stamps to help raise money for Shooting Star Chase (http://www.fundraisingstamps.com/shooting-star-chase), a hospice charity caring for babies, children and young people with life-limiting conditions, and their families. All we need from you is your used stamps. We send these on to Fundraising Stamps, who give us a nominal donation towards school resources, and they sell on to collectors to raise money for our chosen charity. It's a simple scheme that can do a lot of good for a lot of people. Please remember to save any used, undamaged stamps and send them into the school office. Thank you.

Dental Survey – our school has been randomly selected by North Yorkshire Dental Care Services as part of a national programme, to take part in a dental survey. A sample of our Reception and Year I children will be asked to have a brief examination by a dentist in school on Thursday 8^{th} June. Consent forms will be sent home shortly with those children selected for the survey. If you have any queries please get in touch



Road Safety - please can we remind all parents and carers to park in sensible spaces in order to avoid drives being blocked, traffic blockages and most importantly to keep every pedestrian safe.

Safeguarding concern- there is a new social media site that is reportedly leading some young people to cut themselves. It has been brought to our attention by North Yorkshire Police and one of our North Yorkshire secondary schools who had become aware of this through links with a school in a neighbouring local authority.

There is growing awareness of a social media site called, 'Blue Whale'. Intelligence would indicate that young people are approached in a chat room and then asked to take part in private chats before being given a list of tasks to complete. One of the tasks is reportedly getting young people to cut into their skin the image of a 'blue whale'. There are concerns that the last task they are asked to do is commit suicide.

Attendance - Whole School Attendance for the year to date - 96.54%

| | Attendance | | | Punctuality | |
|----------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| w/c 27/03/2017 | Attendance | Pupils Absent | Sessions Absent (AM and PM) | Pupils Late | Minutes Late |
| Whole school | 98.64% | 4 | 13 | 9 | 112 |
| Starfish | 100.00% | 0 | 0 | 2 | 25 |
| Dolphins | 96.00% | 3 | 10 | 2 | 17 |
| Lions | 100.00% | 0 | 0 | 3 | 44 |
| Eagles | 98.70% | 1 | 3 | 2 | 26 |

If you arrive at school after 9am, please ensure you drop your children off in the front office, and sign them in, rather than going straight round to the classrooms.

Well done the 54 children who have achieved 100% attendance this half term.

Kind Regards Mrs Jay Maltby

Important dates for your diary

Tuesday, 25th April 2017 Tuesday, 25th April 2017 Monday, 1st May 2017 Friday, 5th May 2017 @ 14:00 Week Beginning 8th May 2017

Monday, 15th May 2017 @ 14:00-15:00

May 2017

Friday, 26th May 2017 Monday, 5th June 2017 Thursday, 8th June 2017 Friday, 9th June 2017 @ 14:30 Week Beginning 12th June 2017 Thursday, 15th June 2017 @ 9:00

Friday, 16th June 2017 Tuesday, 20th June 2017 Monday, 17th July 2017 Friday, 21st July 2017 **School Opens**

Height and Weight Checks for Reception and Year 6

May Day Bank Holiday New Parent Presentation

Year 6 SATS

Starfish Explorers Stay and Play

Year 2 SATS School Closes School Opens Dental Survey

KS1 SATS Meeting for Year 1 Parents Year 1 Phonics Screening Tests

Class Photographs

Year 5 ½ Day Taster at Campsmount Sports Day (Reserve 27th June)

Year 6 Blessing Service for Children and Parents

School Closes

St Peters Church, Kirk Smeaton

Sunday, 9th April 2017 @ 9:15 Thursday, 13th April 2017 @ 14:30 Friday, 14th April 2017 @ 14:00 Sunday, 16th April 2017 @ 9:15 Palm Sunday Holy Communion Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Good Friday Stations of the Cross Easter Day Holy Communion



KIDZONE

Easter

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BASKET CHURCH
BONNET DAFFODIL
BUNNY EGGS
CANDY FAMILY
CELEBRATE FOOD
CHICKS HOLIDAY
CHOCOLATE JESUS

RESURRECTION RISEN SPRING SUNDAY TRADITIONS